

File

FILE COPY

SOCIALIST PARTY OF GREAT BRITAIN REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE 60th ANNUAL CONFERENCE

held at
CONWAY HALL, RED LION SQUARE, W.C. 1, FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY,
27th, 28th and 29th March, 1964

CONFERENCE SESSIONS:

| | | |
|------------|-------|---------------------|
| First day | | 11.45 a.m. - 6 p.m. |
| Second day | | 2.30 p.m. - 6 p.m. |
| Third day | | 11.50 a.m. - 6 p.m. |

Attendances at Conference:

| | <u>Delegates present</u> | <u>Branches represented</u> |
|------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| First day | 26 | 14 |
| Second day | 22 | 14 |
| Third day | 27 | 14 |

Branches not represented:

| | |
|------------|--|
| First day | Birmingham, Nottingham, Glasgow, Woolwich |
| Second day | Birmingham, Nottingham, West Ham, Woolwich |
| Third day | Birmingham, Nottingham, West Ham, Woolwich |

Branches not represented throughout Conference:

Birmingham, Nottingham, Woolwich

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

| <u>Income</u> | | <u>Expenditure</u> | |
|--------------------|------------|---------------------|-----------|
| Collection, Friday | £13. 4.10 | Conway Hall Hire | £57.15. 0 |
| " Saturday | 8. 10. 3 | Band | 17. 0. 0 |
| " Rally Sunday | 6. 3. 6 | Raffle Expenses | 4. 7. 6 |
| Catering | 13. 0. 0 | Caretaker | 5. 0. 0 |
| Social | 30. 13. 3 | Delegates' Expenses | 2. 0. 0 |
| | | | |
| | £71. 11.10 | | £86. 2. 6 |

MAY SESSION

Comrades George and Guy were elected as Chairman and Vice Chairman respectively and it was agreed that the Standing Orders Committee act as Tellers.

In opening proceedings the Chairman proposed to deal with Resolutions and Items for Discussion in conjunction with the relevant sections of the report of the E.C.

E.C. Report Sections 1 and 2 - no comment.

Section 3. Branches, Membership & Organisation:

Resolution 1. Wood Green & Hornsey Branch "That this Conference instructs the E.C. to discontinue the use of postal ballots".

LOST 13 - 18

Discussion was very brief. The Treasurer informed Conference that in his opinion the poor results in the number of ballot papers returned did not justify the time and money involved in a postal ballot.

Resolution 2. Wembley Branch: "That all resolutions that are passed at any Conference and, by their construction, are binding on the Party as a whole, shall be included in the Rule Book".

LOST 9 - 23

Floor Resolution May & Giles "That this Conference recommends that the 1958 list of Resolutions be brought up to date and sent to Branches".

Amendment: Lawrence & Devereux "That the list of Party Rulings issued in 1958 be brought up to date from year to year and copies be available for inspection".

CARRIED 18 - 0.

In opening up, the Wembley Branch delegate stated that his Branch had found itself in difficulties on questions of Speakers' Tests. There was also some confusion about Party members and the Armed Forces. Inclusion in the Rule Book of all Resolutions concerning the conduct of members would eliminate this. A number of delegates considered the proposition impracticable and whilst they felt that Paddington Branch's Floor Resolution was desirable, the work involved in duplicating a compilation of the Conference Resolutions in question was excessive. If copies were available at H.O. or on demand, Branches would be able to gain the necessary information.

Resolution 3. Wembley Branch - "That this Conference agrees with the opinions expressed by the 1963 Executive Committee concerning the changes in the Declaration of Principles proposed by the W.S.P. and endorses their action in sending a letter containing those opinions to the W.S.P. towards the end of 1963".

CARRIED 30 - 1

This Resolution was carried without any discussion.

Resolution 4. Wood Green & Hornsey Branch - "That on our literature, where appropriate, after 'Socialist Party of Great Britain', the words 'Companion Party of the World Socialist Movement' shall be added in brackets".

LOST 15 - 16

Amendment Camberwell Branch "In line 1, delete all after 'that' and insert 'The Party's name be changed to the 'World Socialist Party of Great Britain'".

LOST 3 - 29

On the question of the amendment, the Wembley Branch delegate informed Conference that his Branch had instructed him to protest against Camberwell's action in stripping a Resolution down to the word "that", re-wording it and putting it forward as an amendment.

Resolution: Lawrence & D'Arcy "That this Conference considers the amendment out of order and does not proceed with it".

LOST 8 - 11

The vote on the Amendment and Resolution 4 (as recorded above) was then taken.

At this juncture, the Chairman informed Conference that he had before him a fairly detailed proposal on organisational matters from Com. Iles of Central Branch. It was agreed that Com. Iles be asked to circulate Branches with his proposals in order to facilitate discussion.

Item for Discussion B. Paddington Branch "The reorganisation of London Branches in line with the Greater London Council and the needs of the Party".

Several delegates thought that the Party should consider reorganising Branches with a view to having a Branch in every new area. The new boroughs would cover far larger areas and politically interested people should be given to understand that the Party had a unit operating in their borough. The re-grouping of Branches might also set a number of secretaries and treasurers free to do other work for the Party. Since Municipal elections would in future be miniature general elections and since the wider areas covered could make it easier for the Party to find the required number of signatories, we should seriously consider contesting Municipal elections. Other delegates thought that Paddington exaggerated the importance of the whole matter.

The Chairman interrupted proceedings to convey to Conference fraternal greetings from the Auckland Branch of the S.P. of New Zealand, the S.P. of Canada, Com. Frank of Vienna, Com. Miller of Los Angeles, Com. Alec Hart of S. Africa and Com. Kersley. A tape had been received from the Boston comrades. It was hoped to play it to Conference at a later date. The delegates agreed that return greetings to all comrades should be sent.

International Secretary's Report. In answer to a question, Conference was informed that the E.C. was awaiting letters from three Sydney comrades in connection with a Branch meeting which had been convened at the E.C.'s suggestion and on which a preliminary report had been received from Com. Clarke of Sydney. On the question of the proposed changes in the Declaration of Principles by the W.S.P. and the S.P. of Canada, delegates expressed the view that the 1963 E.C. had adequately dealt with the matter and all further discussion, if any, should be deferred until after Com. McClatchie's return from Boston during the middle of May.

Overseas Contacts' Secretary's Report. As this comrade had been unable to attend Conference when her report was dealt with she had submitted a breakdown of the sum she had spent on advertising in various papers in compliance with the wishes of the 1963 Conference. A delegate from Islington Branch stated that he had been instructed to express his Branch's appreciation of the Overseas Contacts' Secretary's work.

Central Organiser's Report. Further to his Report, the Central Organiser mentioned that Newcastle and Sunderland Group have had their first duly constituted meeting with 3 Party members and 5 sympathisers present. Prospects in the area were very hopeful. The Mid-Herts. Group was holding useful propaganda meetings and are starting classes. It was agreed to send greetings to all Groups.

Resolution (Floor) D'Arcy & Ambridge "That this Conference recommends the E.C. to make every effort to send speakers from London to Manchester during the coming propaganda season". CARRIED nem.con.

There was a brief discussion on the difficulties in the Manchester area. Although there were some members and sympathisers there, the fact that the propaganda station at Market Street had been closed down had created some difficulties. An alternative site at Platts Fields had proved less useful but there were a number of good speakers and with the support of Nottingham and H.O. good work could be done at Manchester.

ITEM FOR DISCUSSION C. Camberwell Branch: "The Socialist Standard and its Contents". Some delegates expressed the view that the S.S. was bitty and did not contain enough theoretical articles. There was a suggestion that the S.S. Production Committee should use articles from old issues if writers for such theoretical articles were not readily available. Other delegates thought that the purely theoretical article was not the most useful type of published material. The S.S. was not for members only and the application of theory to topical events was a much more successful way to put the Party's case across. The S.S. had the double function of informing and instructing. For the Committee, it was stated that they depended on the articles submitted to them. "News and Reviews" (one of the items described as "bitty" by a speaker) was being published as a result of a Conference Resolution. With regard to theoretical articles, they were being published at regular intervals; no limit had been set as to their length, but the Committee tried to present every issue in as balanced a form as possible.

Resolution (Floor) D'Arcy & Ambridge: "That this Conference recommends the E.C. to consider carefully the cost of Special Issues of the S.S. in view of the losses in the past and also the financial position of the Party". CARRIED 11 - 7

Those in favour of the Resolution thought that, in view of generally rising costs, the E.C. should examine the cost of each Special Issue planned. In some cases such Special Issues have been very interesting and have done well. Others have dealt with a limited subject in too exhaustive a manner. One delegate thought that it was useless to spend extra money on Special Issues unless the widest possible publicity was given to them and a co-ordinated effort made to obtain the maximum propaganda value from them. He thought that the subject of such an issue should be made the title of a meeting. For the Committee, it was said that the Party did not apply a business-man's loss and profit attitude to its other propaganda ventures. Meetings were held and members did not expect collections to pay for their cost. He thought the same attitude should be adopted towards the S.S. The Companion Parties' Secretary stated that he had received very enthusiastic comments on our Special Issues from the Companion Parties and if they had liked them so much many others have done. One speaker stressed the need to sell more copies to cut our losses and the question of raising the price to 1/- was touched upon.

PAMPHLETS COMMITTEE REPORT. In answer to a question, a member of the Committee informed the Conference that there had been unavoidable delay in the completion of the pamphlet on Russia but there was reasonable hope that it would be finished by the middle of April. On the pamphlet "Race", he had no further information but he would make further enquiries.

RESOLUTION 7. Paddington: "That this Conference instructs the E.C. to publish a Special Edition of the Socialist Standard in September to mark its 60th Anniversary". CARRIED 27 - 8

Resolution 8. Paddington: "That this Conference instructs the E.C. to go ahead with all speed with the publication of the revised edition of the pamphlet on Russia". CARRIED 31 - 3

RESOLUTION 9 Paddington: "That this Conference instructs the E.C. to go ahead with all speed with the publication of the revised edition of the pamphlet on the Racial Question". CARRIED 30 - 3

RESOLUTION 10 Paddington "That this Conference instructs the E.C. to arrange for a revision and re-print of the pamphlet on religion". CARRIED 18 - 14

Resolution (Floor) McDowell & Zucconi: "That this Conference recommends the E.C. to produce a 4 page leaflet stating the Party's case on religion". CARRIED 12 - 7

In putting this floor resolution forward, the mover and seconder stated that they thought that a pamphlet on religion was a long and difficult task. Besides, we were already committed to two pamphlets and a third one would involve quite a considerable expense. A pamphlet on religion was not as important as the last two mentioned and a leaflet could state the Party's attitude quite adequately.

Resolution (Floor) D'Arcy & Ambridge "That this Conference recommends the E.C. to consider the possibility of publishing a pamphlet entitled "Socialism", to take the same general line of argument as the old pamphlet". LOST 5 - 7

The mover stated that they would like to see such a pamphlet published mainly for propaganda reasons. "The Case for Socialism" dealt with certain aspects of Capitalism, but not with the origin of social problems. The old pamphlet had done a lot of useful work in presenting the Party's case as a whole.

The Conference adjourned at 6 o'clock.

SATURDAY SESSION

PUBLICITY. The Central Organiser, opening up, expressed his concern that the Party spent only £6 per month on advertising the S.S. There were vast areas, especially in the Midlands and the North of England, where the Party and the S.S. were practically unknown. The Party should send a suitable member to those areas for 3 to 4 weeks to contact local newsagents, canvass for new members. Although we could do with at least 10 members to do such a job all over the Provinces, a beginning should be made and the member in question should be paid by the Party. What was required was not a spending spree on large scale advertising, but fresh ideas, judicious advertising and hard work by as many members as possible. Com. Holt, Central Branch, said he thought a special committee ought to be set up to organise work in the Provinces. He would be willing to serve on such a committee. An area should be selected in conjunction with members in the vicinity and an all-out canvassing effort should be carried out. Islington delegates stated that a concerted advertising campaign to spread the name of the Party and the S.S. should be carried out. The aim should not be sales but rather circulation of the S.S. Other delegates thought that the answer was a greater organisational effort rather than large scale expenditure on advertising.

Resolution (Floor) Ambridge & Francis "That this Conference recommends the E.C. to investigate and overhaul the Party's methods of publicity". LOST 10 - 10

Resolution (Floor) May & Giles: "That this Conference recommends the E.C. to take urgent steps to completely overhaul the Party's publicity and increase the circulation of Party literature by requesting the relative committees to report immediately on ways and means, and that a special committee be formed". CARRIED 20 - 0

Conference then decided to take the Amendments to Rules.

Rule 2. West London Branch "Delete '6d' in line 1 and insert '1/-'".
LOST 12 - 18

Rule 9. Do. "Delete '4d' in line 2 and insert '8'd'".
(No vote taken in view of the result of above Resolution).

Rule 3. Wembley Branch "Delete all after 'Branch' in line 4".
LOST 12 - 22

" 3. Camberwell Branch "Line 5. Delete all after 'abroad' and insert 'may transfer to the international section of Central Branch in places where no Companion Party exists. Applicants residing in such places may also be eligible to join this section'".
LOST 9 - 26

Wembley Branch delegates said that members of an international movement should not be forced to resign when taking up residence in a country where there was no Companion Party. Amendment of this Rule would maintain contact and encourage members abroad. Camberwell delegates thought that their amendment would make overseas contacts more meaningful and truly express the international character of the Party. Those who opposed the amendments stated that the Party had no control over members going abroad and the organisation could be harmed by such a step. Resignation from the Party did not mean severance from it. A number of comrades had gone abroad in recent years and done good work in their country of residence. Continued membership could also embarrass comrades.

Rule 12. Wembley Branch "That the E.C. shall sit from Annual Conference to Annual Conference".
LOST 12 - 22

Wembley Branch stated that at Conference time the sitting E.C. was not the one whose Report Conference was asked to examine. By the time Conference Resolutions could be implemented the best part of the year was gone. If the amendment were carried it would allow members to elect a new E.C. in the light of the Report to Conference and the new E.C. would have a full year to implement Conference decisions. Most delegates thought that such an amendment was an organisational impossibility. No Report to Conference would be able to cover the period from Conference to Conference since time would have to be allowed for the compilation of Committee Reports, their duplication, dispatch to Branches and discussion by the latter.

Amendment to Rule being lost automatically resulted in Resolution 5 - Wembley Branch, "That the present E.C. shall sit until Conference 1965" being dropped.

Rule 28. Resolution: May & Coffey "that the Chairman deal with Amendments to Rule 28 prior to dealing with Resolution No.12" (Party Poll on Rule 28).
CARRIED 16 - 5

A statement from Com. Walsh of Central Branch, in support of altering Rule 28 to allow non-members to sign nomination papers, had been distributed among delegates prior to the start of the discussion.

The Central Organiser, who is also a member of the Parliamentary Committee, opened the discussion. He stated that the proposed change did not involve a matter of principle. It was a question of tactics. At the present moment Rule 28 restricted the Party in the choice of a Constituency. At the last General Election the Rule had forced us into contesting Bethnal Green, from which we had derived practically no benefit. Publicity was practically nil owing to the fact that that Constituency was a safe Labour seat and the Labour candidate held almost no meetings and did not engage in any political work. The

Rule 28
(contd)

Constituency was not easy to get to and the electorate had not shown much interest in the Party in spite of the considerable effort which Party members had made. If Rule 28 were amended the Party could choose the Constituency guaranteeing the greatest publicity. The boundaries of the Constituencies created anomalies by barring some members of a Branch from signing the nomination paper in the Constituency covered by the Branch because they were living on the wrong side of the road, as the dividing line between two Constituencies sometimes ran through the middle of a road. The Party allowed itself to be hamstrung by tying itself to a purely arbitrary figure of 10 signatories, a figure which was laid down by the Government. If the Government decided to increase the required number to 50 or more, the Party would be unable to fight elections for a long time to come. Furthermore, bye-elections which seemed to give far greater publicity could not be contested as long as Rule 28 is on the books. A number of delegates stated that they regarded the proposed changes as disastrous. It was not Rule 28 that restricted our activities but a reduced membership. One delegate stated that we did not fight elections for publicity which sometimes could even be damaging but rather for propaganda. If the Rule was in the way of our contesting elections we should go all out to make new members in sufficient numbers to enable us to sign the nomination papers in any Constituency.

Resolution: Paddington Branch "Delete all after 'Constituency' in line 4 and add, 'Nomination papers must be signed by a majority of Party members'".
LOST 8 - 28

Resolution: Camberwell Branch "Delete all after 'Constituency' in line 4 and add, 'There must be a majority of members in the Ward, District or Constituency to sign the candidate's nomination paper'".
LOST 12 - 24

Resolution: Wood Green & Hornsey Branch "That all after the word 'Constituency' in line 4 be deleted and the following inserted: 'A majority of those signing the nomination paper must be fully qualified members and, prior to signing the nomination paper, the non-members must sign a declaration, to be retained by the Party, stating that they are not and have not been at any time during the previous two years, members of, connected with, or sympathetic to any politically interested organisation'".
LOST 3 - 32

Amendment to above: West London Branch "In the last line insert the word 'other' between the words 'any' and 'politically'".
LOST 5 - 27

Resolution: Bloomsbury "A majority of those signing the nomination papers must be fully qualified members and non-members must be approved by the Executive Committee".
LOST 5 - 29

Resolution: Swansea Branch: "That the Socialist Party makes clear to all its intention of presenting itself as a serious political party whose intention it is to capture the machinery of Government, National and Local, and to this end it abolishes Rule 28 which withholds from the Party its objective. The Party now substitutes the acceptance of the signing of nomination forms from Socialists who are non-members of the S.P.G.B. when and where they exist in sufficient number".
LOST 3 - 34

Resolution No.12: Islington Branch: "That this Conference instructs the E.C. to take a Party Poll on the question: 'Shall non-members be permitted to sign the nomination papers for the Party's Electoral candidates?' In the event of a positive verdict, Rule 28 shall be amended. In the event of a negative verdict, Rule 28 shall stand as at present".
LOST 8 - 29

SUNDAY
agreed the
Un-

SUNDAY SESSION

In the absence of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, it was agreed that Com. Phillips act as Chairman until their arrival.

Urgency for Woolwich Branch was moved by Wilson & Brain: CARRIED 6 - 4

The Dartford delegate reported that Woolwich Branch had refrained from sending delegates to Conference as a protest against the handling of Beresford Sq. Station by Party speakers and the Propaganda Committee. This very successful speaking spot had been allowed to deteriorate over a lengthy period. Promises had been made and broken and the Branch had decided to adopt the extreme measure of not sending delegates to Conference in order to attract the Party's attention to their complaint. In reply, it was stated for the Propaganda Committee that there was some justification for the Branch's complaint. However, no Forms "E" had been returned by the Branch so that the Committee did not know which speakers had turned up in accordance with the Speakers' lists and which had not. The Committee had proof of at least 8 Meetings having been held during 1963 at Beresford Sq. and they thought that at least four more had been held. Speakers, although volunteering to speak at Beresford Sq., did not always honour their commitments, no doubt partly on account of the long travelling time involved; but the Branch could help by ensuring that the platform was up before the speaker's arrival, that a chairman was available to open the meeting and that the speaker was reminded of his engagement a few days before the actual speaking date.

Resolution: Ambridge & Gluck "that next business be taken". CARRIED 17-3

EDUCATION.

The Education Officer apologised for not having submitted a report to Conference. Due to very heavy commitments, the educational programme of the Party, organised from H.O., had been limited to a very successful season of Speakers' Classes which had produced a number of new speakers for the Party. Unfortunately, he would not be able to carry on with the post in the future.

Resolution: Paddington Branch: "That this Conference welcomes the recent successful Speakers' Classes and urges the E.C. to make every effort to extend this type of class to include special sessions dealing with economics and political history". CARRIED 30-1

Some delegates stated that the Resolution implied that the recent Speakers' Classes had not included economics and political history. Reports from members attending the classes stressed that they had studied these subjects under the tuition of the Classes Organiser. A member of the Committee who had recently examined prospective speakers who had attended these classes said that the Committee had been impressed by the sound knowledge of economics of these young comrades. In winding up the Paddington delegate stated that his Branch had not intended to suggest that the Speakers Classes had fallen short of their expectations but that they wished to see the good work continued and extended.

PROPAGANDA.

Resolution No.6. Paddington Branch: "That this Conference instructs the E.C. to arrange a large indoor meeting in September to coincide with the publication of the 60th Anniversary Special Edition of the "Socialist Standard".

Amendment: West London Branch: "In line 2 delete the words 'in September'".

Resolution

LOST 10-13
CARRIED 24- 4

On the subject of meetings a delegate asked why the practice of presenting statistics of propaganda activities had been discontinued. A member of the Propaganda Committee said that he had in the

PROPAGANDA (contd).

past been made responsible for this job. Unfortunately, he had fallen ill and had been unable to carry out the work. If Conference wished him to prepare the figures and circularise Branches he would do so. It was agreed that his suggestion should be carried out. In this connection, the importance of returning Forms "E" to the Propaganda Committee without delay was stressed once again.

At this juncture Conference heard a short progress report about Election activities in Bromley. Although the bulk of the work was carried out by a relatively small number of comrades, they greatly enjoyed the work. In 1963, since the decision to contest Bromley, the Bromley Group in conjunction with Lewisham Branch, had held 6 meetings in the area, regular canvassing had been carried out and the sales of the S.S. had been doubled. Members who enjoyed arguing socialist ideas would find plenty of opportunities if they were to come out to Bromley to support the Party's Election work. This area represented an added interest by way of a strong section of C.N.D. In fact, the prospective Labour candidate had had to withdraw, under pressure from the local Labour Party, because of his C.N.D. sympathies, a fact which provided us with an excellent opportunity to point to the contradictions in their cases. The Party had been able to arrange an official debate with C.N.D.

POLITICAL & SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Resolution No.13. Paddington Branch: "That this Conference affirms that the very nature of Socialism precludes the use of violence and that violence, as distinct from absolutely necessary restraints, will not and cannot, play any part in the establishing of Socialism".

Amendment: Bloomsbury Branch: "That the Executive Committee be asked to prepare a reasoned statement on the subject 'Socialism & Violence' for consideration by the 1965 Conference".

CARRIED 18 - 14

Amendment: Glasgow Branch: "That this Conference re-affirms that, if necessary when Socialism is established, violence may have to be used to suppress an undemocratic minority seeking to return to Capitalism".

Amendment: Islington Branch: "In line 1, delete 'affirms' and insert 'is of the opinion'".

Amendment: Camberwell Branch: "In line 1, delete all after Conference and insert 're-affirms the Party's attitude to violence', viz. that only a democratically elected socialist majority can introduce Socialism and after the capture of the machinery of Government violence will only be used if a situation arises to make it necessary".

The protracted discussion ranged over the Resolution and all Amendments. Those in favour of the Paddington Branch Resolution or an approximation of it argued that, by the time Socialism would have been established, society would have undergone such changes that there would neither be the need nor the means to use violent force. At all events, any possible opposition to the establishment of socialism, when the time was ripe could only come from a small misguided minority which could, if necessary, be restrained by other means. The implications of a socialist society presupposed a total absence of oppressive forces. Those in favour of the Glasgow or Camberwell Branches' Amendments argued that the Party's position was 'peaceably if we can, forcibly if we must'. They envisaged the possibility of a recalcitrant minority with access to means of destruction which it would be prepared to use in order to effect a return to Capitalism. If any section of society were prepared to fight it out we should be prepared to fight back. We were not pacifists and we should be prepared to protect the revolution by force if necessary. Bloomsbury Branch felt that the discussion had clearly shown that there was a divergence of opinion. What was needed was a clear and exhaustive statement by the E.C. for consideration at the next Conference. The Bloomsbury Branch Amendment was put to the vote and

CARRIED 18 - 14

Resolution
that of
development

Resolution No. 14. Paddington Branch: "That this Conference affirms that ethical and moral concepts have played their part in the growth and development of the Socialist cause and will, with necessary revisions and amendments, play an important role in establishing Socialism. Further, that Socialism is unlikely to function as a socially acceptable way of life without these concepts complementing economic equality".

Amendment: Camberwell Branch: "In line 2, delete all after 'concepts' and insert, 'arise from social conditions; therefore the ethics of capitalism bolster the rule of the capitalist class. The class consciousness of the working class is the highest expression of social interest. Further, that Socialism will function because the interest of each will be in harmony with the interest of all'".

Amendment: Glasgow Branch: "That this Conference re-affirms the view that Socialism is a class issue, not a moral issue".

For Paddington Branch, it was stated that just as capitalism had a set of ethical concepts so socialists, in planning a new system, were building up a socialist consciousness which was the embryo of a socialist morality. Paddington Branch did not claim that Socialism was a moral issue and not an economic one, but there will be ethical concepts in a Socialist society, a standard of behaviour which will guide every member of society. A delegate from Lewisham Branch said that we were not concerned with moral ideals but with conditions. An E.C. member stated that whilst he agreed with Glasgow Branch that Socialism was a class issue and not a moral one, he thought that they misunderstood the term "morals". Morals merely meant a way of conduct. There would be conduct in a Socialist society. The vote was then taken:

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| Islington Branch Amendment: | LOST 12 - 15 |
| Glasgow Branch Amendment | CARRIED 16 - 14 |

Resolution: Donnelly (Glasgow) & Flowers (Hackney) "That the E.C. Report to Conference be adopted". AGREED

It was agreed to pass a vote of thanks to the Cantoon Committee and its helpers.

Conference stood adjourned at 5.50 p.m.